

drove up and down Main Street and enjoyed the new sign and then we drove up and down Sixth Avenue to enjoy the sign, and it looks grand. Seeing the sign in the ground, I felt like a proud papa. It was a project completed. I gave JVB a text on the Wurts brothers and on the early anthracite industry in Carbondale that I wrote and I told JVB that he would be reading that text on the morrow at the unveiling and he was pleased. I told him to read it over and make sure that he understood the text and all of the words. RTP and I dropped him off at 46 Canaan Street and RTP dropped me off at the Homestead and I began my preparations for the morrow. I had not yet prepared my remarks for the morning and had a lot to do. I knew that I could do it and so I sat down and did it. I finished my remarks about 1:30 A.M. and was very pleased with what I had written. I fell asleep knowing that I would have the delicious pleasure of delivering my remarks tomorrow to the guests at the unveiling. Instead of saying tomorrow I should have said on the morrow. At 8:45 A.M. I was at City Hall and in the Eagle across the street from CCH and was reading my remarks over to myself when I spotted JVB, wearing his CRCCH t-shirt, walking down the West side of Main Street. I was watching him at the moment when he first spotted me. Immediately his step lightened and he started to walk quicker. He crossed the street and got in the car and we drove up to 80 Cemetery Street and collected up Miss Gardner and she was all aflutter over the ceremony and the occasion and the new car and was prepared to have a grand time--which she did. Little did she know when I picked her up that she would be involved in the unveiling of the historical marker. JVB, for that matter, did not know that he would be involved in the unveiling later in the morning. I enjoyed the fact that I had a pleasure in store for both of them and that neither of them knew of the pleasure that I was planning for them. Charlotte Moro and her husband Joseph arrived and Joseph Pascoe arrived and Rev. Pullis and Mrs. Pullis arrived and Paul Collins arrived and Rep. Frank Serafini arrived and Senator Mellow arrived and Al Daugevelo arrived and Joseph Martine arrived (the last two with cameras in hand to take photographs) and Ken and Jean Colville and Mary Lou Dearie and Nan Loftus and the Shiflers and others. I was prepared for the whole world knew that the ceremony would be impressive whether there were 6 or 600 people there. The Press Release that I wrote and dated October 1, 1982 and entitled "Historical Marker Dedicated" fairly well summarizes what happened at the dedication. I should add here that I got very impassioned in the ceremony as it went along. My reasoning -- a group of people doing something for the city not because they had to but because they wanted to in 1851, 1852, 1859, 1892 and 1981-- was seized upon by one and all and enjoyed by all, and appreciated by all. I thought the ceremony was very impressive and it was. Senator Mellow and Frank Serafini both praised me and said some very nice things about the Committee and I was very pleased to hear them say what they did. Senator Mellow said that he had seen me in the Parade on 08-28-1982 and that he had never seen such pride on the part of a person as he walked down the street. Senator Mellow also said that the Pioneer Days parade was the best parade that he had ever participated in. Bob Tomaine arrived late at the ceremonies--about 25 minutes. The two photographers were a little fidgety because they wanted to get to the photograph--I knew that the ceremony would take about 45 minutes to an hour and kept assuring the photographers that the unveiling would take place more or less directly. They settled down a bit and I believe I am correct in stating that they both finally got involved in the program, in spite of themselves. At 11 A.M. we went outside and I unveiled the marker, with the assistance of EAG and JVB. In announcing the "unveilers" I caused the audience to applaud JVB and EAG, and that gave me pleasure. EAG got a particularly enthusiastic round of applause. After the unveiling the photographers went quickly about their business and then Rev. Pullis delivered a prayer of benediction. We then went to the Ben-Mar. Not

the entire group but about 15 of us went up to the Ben-Mar, EAG, Mary Lou Dearie, Nan Loftus, Joe Pascoe, David Baum, Robert Smith, Kay Shifler, Oliver Shifler, Bob Tomaine, Frank Serafini, JVB, James A. Sposito, SRP. Before leaving, Senator Mellow came over to me and shook my hand and thanked me for inviting him to the ceremonies. "The pleasure was mine," I assured him. The Ben-Mar session was relaxing and easy. Some people had sandwiches, others had only coffee, some had breakfast. At the conclusion of the session, Tomaine and JVB and Miss Gardner and I walked down Main Street, just as we had walked up it after the ceremony. It was great fun walking down Main Street with Miss Gardner on my arm. I enjoyed myself and so did she. When we arrived back at City Hall, we collected up the extra programs and such and Mitch Dottle was there and he was in an expansive mood and I asked him if we would be able to have a tour of the prisons. He was delighted, and gave a four star performance for Miss Gardner and Joe Pascoe and John and myself. We left City Hall and dropped Miss Gardner off. She asked if we would come in, and I said, yes we would. Tomaine, JVB, SRP and Miss Gardner sat in the living room and chatted about this and that. I did most of the talking. The other three didn't know exactly what to say and so I just did a monologue. I carried on about the mysteries of houses and how much of an influence they have on us as children and as adults. I carried on about how City Hall and buildings like it have an affect on us and we are frequently not aware of the fact that such buildings are affecting us as they do. That is why we must restore Carbondale City Hall. Such buildings do make a difference. After about a half-hour, the moment came for me to suggest that we be on our way. "Gentlemen, I think that we should be off to City Hall and begin measuring the room on the third floor for...." and with that we stood up. EAG offered tea and I declined and it was all very smooth and we were on our way. We did not go to City Hall. Rather, we went to McDonnell's and had something to eat. Tomaine was affability itself and JVB was in a good mood. We spent about a half hour or so at the restaurant and then Tomaine left and JVB and I went to Childs and looked at the O&W railway coaches in Bauman's junk yard. There must be five or six of them. Even a wooden passenger coach/sleeper, with four of the births still in existence. I would love to own the wooden sleeper. It has very high ceilings and nice wood inside and mirrors and it must have been spectacular in its day. A great deal of the aura of yesteryear was still there when JVB and I visited the coach. We spent about forty minutes visiting the O&W coaches in the junk yard and then I drove to Jermyn and we paid a visit to PEG who seemed very pleased to see us. She was watching television from her usual perch with ice tea in hand. We looked at photographs and JVB read Smithsonian magazines and Peg and I talked about the stock market. Peg made tea. JVB had a giner ale. After about an hour we took our leave. IT WAS A NICE VISIT. Why, all caps? A typing error. I dropped JVB off at 46 Canaan and said that I would be in Carbondale on the weekend of October 2 and that I would see him then. On Sunday morning I got up at about 10 A.M. and typed and wrote the unveiling press release. After luncheon RTP suggested a dry run on the Gravity Railroad walk that we project to take in October on the 10th. I called JVB at 2 P.M. as we were about to set out. He was at his Grandmother's and was delighted to get the call. At the entrance to the Gravity at White's Crossing, we (RTP, Laura, William, JVB and SRP) ran into one of the Pilney boys and he was not too friendly--there are signs up about walk at your own risk and make sure you have insurance and such. In addition, archers were on the scene and target practice was going on. There was a decided feeling of "keep out" on the part of the Pilney boy--the younger. As we walked the roadbed of the light track, we ran into the Pilney who was in RTP's high school class. He was coldly friendly and very much of an odd fish, about as friendly as a boa constrictor, or perhaps a lizard. We had a grand time and went as far as Panther's Bluffs and walked up and down the falls and hypothesized about the tracks and the water intake system and about the switchback. We enjoyed our walk through the cut at the Shepherd's Crook and walked up the track to Waymart. We noticed on the left as we walked one of the D&H marker posts. We admired it and continued on our